GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2968
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2016
Doppler Weather Radar
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Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Doppler Weather Radar (DWR) system installed the country, location and state-wise, along with the funds allocated and spend thereon;

(b) whether some of the DWR system installed in various parts of the country are not functioning for a long time and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any enquiry into non-functioning of DWR system and if so, the details and outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government proposes to install more DWR system in the country including in Uttrakhand and if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(e) whether the Earth System Science Organisationâ€"India Meteorological Department has adquate skilled staff for maintenance of DWR system in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY)

(a) The details of the Doppler Weather Radar (DWR) system installed in the country, location and state-wise is enclosed at Annexure-I. An expenditure of Rs 244 crores has been incurred for procurement of DWRs and spares.

(b) At times radars remain non-functional due to failure of support systems/critical spares/parts. As and when non-functionality scenario develops, the said 24X7 severe weather surveillance is carried out through half-hourly updates of geostationary satellites (like INSAT-3D) and other polar orbital satellites covering India and its neighborhood. Although, efforts are always made to ensure the uninterrupted functionality of various observing systems including DWRs over land and ocean, systems become dysfunctional at times. Prioritized action will always be launched so as to make the system functional with minimum break-downs to the extent possible.

Currently only one Doppler Weather Radar at Delhi (Palam) is under service for want of spare parts.

(c) No Madam.

(d) Mussoorie/Dehradun, Uttarkashi and Nainital are identified locations in Uttarakhand under the Integrated Himalayan Meteorology during the current Five Year Plan. Additional DWRs will be placed in a phased manner based on service requirements related to land and associated infrastructure in various parts of the country.

(e)-(f) With an in-house inventory of spares, despite the staff crunch, radars purchased prior to 2006 are maintained by technical staff of India Meteorological Department (IMD). The annual maintenance contract is awarded for the maintenance of the radars procured after 2010.